

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
127TH LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION



Summaries of bills, adopted amendments and laws enacted or finally passed

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON VETERANS AND LEGAL
AFFAIRS**

May 2016

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STATE OF MAINE

127TH LEGISLATURE

SECOND REGULAR SESSION



LEGISLATIVE DIGEST OF BILL SUMMARIES AND ENACTED LAWS

This *Legislative Digest of Bill Summaries and Enacted Laws* contains summaries of all LDs and adopted amendments and all laws enacted or finally passed during the Second Regular Session of the 127th Maine Legislature.

The *Digest* is arranged alphabetically by committee and within each committee by Legislative Document (LD) number. The committee report(s), prime sponsor and lead co-sponsor(s), if designated, are listed below each LD title. All adopted amendments are summarized and listed by paper number. A subject index is included with each committee. An appendix provides a summary of relevant session statistics.

Final action on each LD is noted to the right of the LD title. The following describes the various final actions.

CARRIED OVER..... carried over to a subsequent session of the Legislature
CON RES XXX..... chapter # of constitutional resolution passed by both houses
CONF CMTE UNABLE TO AGREE..... Committee of Conference unable to agree; legislation died
DIED BETWEEN HOUSES..... House & Senate disagreed; legislation died
DIED IN CONCURRENCE..... defeated in each house, but on different motions; legislation died
DIED ON ADJOURNMENT..... action incomplete when session ended; legislation died
EMERGENCY..... enacted law takes effect sooner than 90 days after session adjournment
FAILED, EMERGENCY ENACTMENT or PASSAGE..... emergency failed to receive required 2/3 vote
FAILED, ENACTMENT or FINAL PASSAGE..... failed to receive final majority vote
FAILED, MANDATE ENACTMENT..... legislation proposing local mandate failed required 2/3 vote
HELD BY GOVERNOR..... Governor has not signed; final disposition to be determined at subsequent session
LEAVE TO WITHDRAW..... sponsor's request to withdraw legislation granted
NOT PROPERLY BEFORE THE BODY..... ruled out of order by the presiding officer; legislation died
INDEF PP..... indefinitely postponed; legislation died
ONTP, ACCEPTED, MAJORITY, MINORITY or REPORT X... ought-not-to-pass report accepted; legislation died
P&S XXX..... chapter # of enacted private & special law
PUBLIC XXX..... chapter # of enacted public law
RESOLVE XXX..... chapter # of finally passed resolve
VETO SUSTAINED..... Legislature failed to override Governor's veto

The effective date for non-emergency legislation enacted in the First Regular Session of the 127th Legislature is July 29, 2016. The effective date for legislation enacted as an emergency measure may be found in the enacted law summary for that legislation.

Joint Standing Committee on Veterans and Legal Affairs

LD 742

RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine To Require That Signatures on a Direct Initiative of Legislation Come from Each Congressional District

Died Between Houses

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
SAVIELLO T	OTP-AM ONTP	S-356

This resolution was carried over from the First Regular Session of the 127th Legislature.

This bill proposes to amend the Constitution of Maine to require that at least 5% of the number of signatures required on a petition to directly initiate legislation be of electors registered to vote in each of the 16 counties.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-129)

The resolution proposes to amend the Constitution of Maine to require that signatures on a petition to directly initiate legislation be of voters from every county of the State. This amendment instead proposes to amend the Constitution of Maine to require that the number of signatures on a petition to directly initiate legislation be of voters from each of the State's 2 congressional districts in an amount not less than 10% of the total votes for Governor cast in that congressional district in the previous gubernatorial election.

This amendment was not adopted.

Committee Amendment "B" (S-356)

This amendment proposes to amend the Constitution of Maine to require that the signatures on a petition to directly initiate legislation be of voters from each of the State's two congressional districts and that the number of signatures from each congressional district be not less than ten percent of the total votes for Governor cast in that congressional district in the previous gubernatorial election. This amendment provides that, if the required votes are cast in favor of the proposed amendment to the Constitution, the proposed amendment becomes part of the Constitution on March 1, 2017 instead of on the date of the Governor's proclamation.

LD 805

Resolve, Authorizing Certain Individuals To Bring Suit against the Department of Health and Human Services

Died On Adjournment

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
FARNSWORTH R DUTREMBLE D	OTP-AM ONTP	H-524

This resolve was carried over from the First Regular Session of the 127th Legislature.

This resolve authorizes Sara Bachelder individually and on behalf of her two minor children; Danielle and Christopher Pouliot individually and on behalf of their minor child; Hannah and Brett Williams individually and on behalf of their minor child; Tonya Later and Albert Sico III individually and on behalf of their minor child; and Michelle Tapley individually and on behalf of her minor child to bring suit against the Department of Health and Human Services for damages in connection with actions taken by the Department of Health and Human Services and constitutes a waiver of the State's defense of sovereign immunity.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-524)

This amendment, which is the majority report of the Joint Standing Committee on Veterans and Legal Affairs,